



2008-2009 UHESA Officers

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October 16, 2008

Dear Legislator:

The Utah Higher Education Staff Association (UHESA) membership is looking forward to working with you this coming 2009 legislative session.

The economic downturn that negatively impacts Utah's budget is also placing a burden on families as costs for food, gas and energy continue to rise. UHESA understands this creates a significant challenge in regards to prioritizing budgets and trusts that the Legislature will continue to support UHESA's funding priorities. During difficult economic times, people turn to higher education to upgrade skills, retrain, or finish degrees. The impact of additional students on our campuses cannot be understated.

UHESA members across the state have worked to set realistic goals for the upcoming session and believe that this proposal reflects the current economic situation for funding priorities for the 2009 legislative session.

Please review and consider the following:

1. UHESA supports the much appreciated continued funding of health insurance costs,
2. UHESA supports a base salary increase of at least 2% or \$1000.00, and
3. UHESA supports funding to assist Higher Education in accommodating the budget –related 3% increase in FTE enrollments for the 2008-2009 academic year.

As Utah colleges and universities work to absorb the four percent budget cut approved in September, UHESA hopes that further cuts can be avoided. This may mean tapping the state's "rainy day" fund to help compensate for the economic downturn and loss of one-time revenues – such use to mitigate further cuts on our campuses will avoid additional loss of service at a time of increasing enrollment.

UHESA continues to be at the forefront in advancing the mission of Higher Education to help create a viable work force that can only enhance the economic outlook for the state of Utah in a positive manner. Investments in higher education bring the state significant return economically, civically and socially.

UHESA would like to thank legislators for the support you have shown in the past and, again, we look forward to working with you now and during the 2009 legislative session.

Sincerely,

Clint Moser  
2008-2009 UHESA President  
Utah Valley University

2008-2009 Staff Association Presidents

Geniva Brooks, Vicki Noyes –*College of Eastern Utah*  
Corry Reeves, Mary Stubbs – *Dixie State College*  
Peggy Hoffman – *Salt Lake Community College*  
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2008-2009 UHESA Legislative Committee

Geniva Brooks (CEU), Corey Reeves (Dixie), Dan Trujillo (SLCC), Pennie Mickelsen (Snow), Jake Johnson (SUU), Julie Newland (U of U), Milt Johnson (USU), Marion Olson (USU), Jared Sumsion (UVU), Carole Lapine (Weber)